THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) Social Security benefits such as employment injury compensation, medical care, provident fund, etc. are already available to the employees of the factories. The question of extension of the provisions of the existing Social Security Legislations to the unorganised workers and others has been considered in the past. But the same has not been found feasible because of administrative and financial constraints.

Number of child labour in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh

3355. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV "RAVI" : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar and Andhra Pradesh top in the employment of child Labour; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to free child labour from exploitation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) According to 1981 Census, Andhra Pradesh tops in the employment of child labour with 1,951,312 child labourers and Bihar is at sixth position with 1,101,764 child labourers.

(b) Legal protection against exploitation has been extended through enactment of Child Labour (Prohibition Regulation) Act, 1986 which prohibits engagement of child labour in certain hazardous occupations and processes and provides for regulation of their working conditions in notified establishments. Violation of the provisions of the Act attracts stringent penalties. Prohibitory and regulatory provisions also exist in certain other laws. In addition to stricter enforcement of law, Govt. have adopted a National Child Labour Policy in 1987. This Policy envisages a legislative action plan; focussing of general development programmes for the benefit of child labour and a project based plan of action in areas of high concentration of child labour. Further, financial assistance is granted to voluntary organisation for taking an action-oriented projects for the welfare of working children. In addition, with ILO's assistance two projects for the benefit of working children namely IPEC (International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour) and CLASP (Child Labour Action and Support Programme) have also been taken up.

ILO survey on bonded labour

3356. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that International Labour Organisation has released survey on 7th March, 1993 indicating that there are 15 million people including 5 million children as bonded labour and in agricultural field there are 20 lakhs bonded labour;

(b) if so, what is Government's figure in this behalf; and

(c) if there is sharp contrast between the two figures, what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) According to an Advance Press Note released by the International Labour Organisation's, Regional Office in Bangkok, details cases of bonded labour in India are given in the World Labour Report 1993. The Report is yet to be released.

(b) According to reports received from the Stae Governments—2,50,289 bonded labourers have been identified. No separate figure in respect of child bonded labour is available for the whole country.

(c) Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, State Government is the appropriate authority for identification of Bonded Labour. The States are being urged periodically to intensify the identification process.